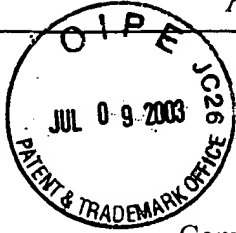


ARNOLD & PORTER



July 9, 2003

Holly Logue Prutz
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1637
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JUL 11 2003

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Attn: Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment

Re: U.S. Patent Application No. 09/692,257
Filed: October 19, 2000
Title: Nucleic Acid Molecules and Other Molecules Associated with Plants
Applicants: Philip W. MILLER *et al.*
Atty. Docket No.: 16517.001/38-21(15771)B

Sir:

The following documents are forwarded herewith for appropriate action by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO):

1. Amendment and Reply to the Office Action Mailed April 9, 2003; and
2. Return postcard.

Please stamp the postcard with the filing date of these documents and return it to our courier.

In the event that extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this patent application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned. Applicants do not believe any fees are due in conjunction with this filing. However, if any fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17 are required in the present application, including any fees for extensions of time, then the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge such fees to Arnold & Porter Deposit Account No. 50-2387, referencing matter number 16517.001/15771B. A duplicate copy of this letter is attached.

Respectfully submitted,

Holly Logue Prutz (Reg. No. 47,755)
David R. Marsh (Reg. No. 41,408)

Attachments



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

Philip W. MILLER *et al.*

Appl. No.: 09/692,257

Filed: October 19, 2000

Title: Nucleic Acid Molecules and Other
Molecules Associated with Plants

Art Unit: 1637

Examiner: Shar S. HASHEMI

Atty. Docket: 16517.001/38-21(15771)B

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JUL 11 2003
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Amendment and Reply to the Office Action Mailed April 9, 2003

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Attn: Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed April 9, 2003, Applicants submit the following amendments and remarks.

In the event that extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this patent application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned. Applicants do not believe that any additional fees are due in conjunction with this filing. However, if any fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17 are required in the present application, including any fees for extensions of time, authorization to charge such fees is given in the accompanying transmittal letter.